

PRESS RELEASE



3 July 2018

Ricardo plc
Shoreham Technical Centre,
Old Shoreham Road,
Shoreham-by-Sea,
West Sussex,
BN43 5FG, UK

Ricardo role revealed in London's TX range-extended electric taxi

The TX range-extended electric taxi of LEVC (London EV Company) represents a breakthrough in urban transport, offering unrivalled ride comfort, class-leading wheelchair accessibility, air conditioning, phone charging and a spacious cabin with six seats – today the Ricardo role in the development of this new vehicle can be revealed

Ricardo supported LEVC (part of Geely Commercial Vehicle) to help with the development of the next generation taxi. The resulting TX is an ultra-low emissions vehicle which surpasses the very latest air quality regulations. The vehicle which entered service following its certification to carry fare-paying passengers in December 2017, is regarded as the world's most advanced electric taxi.

Ricardo's role in the three-year development of the TX – which can now be revealed – focused on chassis and powertrain systems, deploying the Ricardo vehicle attribute-led approach to design and engineering. The programme required Ricardo to develop a unique front suspension system achieving the stringent Transport for London manoeuvrability requirement whilst delivering on the more conventional ride, handling and NVH attributes.

Following its UK launch in 2017, the TX is now being marketed across a range of international markets.



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“Ricardo is proud to have supported Geely and LEVC in the development of the advanced TX range extended electric taxi,” commented Ricardo programme management director Graeme Stewart. “The collaboration between Ricardo and Geely in the area of chassis and powertrain systems demonstrated the strong and effective working relationship between the two organizations and our joint commitment to engineering a better, more environmentally sustainable taxi for London – as well as many other cities around the world.”

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

Ricardo plc is a global, world-class, multi-industry consultancy for engineering, technology, project innovation and strategy. Our people are committed to providing outstanding value through quality engineering solutions focused on high efficiency, low emission, class-leading product innovation and robust strategic implementation. With a century of delivering excellence and value through technology, our client list includes the world's major transportation original equipment manufacturers, supply chain organizations, energy companies, financial institutions and governments. Guided by our corporate values of respect, integrity, creativity & innovation and passion, we enable our customers to achieve sustainable growth and commercial success. Ricardo is listed in the FTSE4Good Index, which identifies global companies that demonstrate strong environmental, social and governance (ESG) practices. For more information, visit www.ricardo.com.

LEVC (formerly the London Taxi Company) manufactures the world's only purpose-built, range extended electric taxi. The company has built the iconic London taxi in Coventry for almost 70 years, and our new electric taxi draws on these decades of automotive heritage. LEVC's advanced new taxi is manufactured at our new facility at Ansty Park in Coventry, a project supported by a £325m investment from its parent company Geely.

The TX, LEVC's new electric taxi, combines the company's expertise as a manufacturer of urban commercial vehicles with proven electric vehicle technology and the latest in advanced material manufacturing. The new taxi has been built using the latest techniques in aluminium bonding. This avoids welding or riveting – which offsets the additional weight of the battery, whilst maintaining vehicle strength. The cab retains its renowned disability access features. There will be a new retractable integrated ramp making it easier for drivers to load passengers in wheelchairs in a new forward-facing position.

Photos of the vehicle can be downloaded here:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/obrnxa9tzauid/AACBXopFpxLQkOyon_GbXvyxa?dl=0

Media contacts:

Anthony Smith
Ricardo Media Office
Tel: +44 (0)1273 382710
E-mail: media@ricardo.com